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UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • MISSOULA, MT 59812 • 406-243-2522 • FAX: 406-243-4520

NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 3, 2008

Contact: Brian Lofink, international liaison, UM International Programs, 406-243-2299,
brian.lofink@mso.umt.edu.

RUSSIAN EDUCATORS EXAMINE TEACHING STRATEGIES IN MISSOULA

MISSOULA—

Eleven of Russia's leading educators are in Missoula this month to participate in the Teachers to Teachers Language, Technology, Math and Science Exchange.

The Missoula exchange activities are designed and administered by University of Montana International Programs and the UM School of Education's Division of Educational Research and Service.

While in Missoula, the Russian exchange participants will spend much of their time examining effective high school teaching strategies and curriculum. They will receive hands-on practice developing curriculum and incorporating information technology into lesson plans and will visit Big Sky High School, Hellgate High School and Sentinel High School.

"Montana students always rank well nationally in terms of their science and math skills," said Rick van den Pol, co-administrator of the project in the School of Education. "Our high schools are proud to share this success with the visiting teachers."

This is the second consecutive year the University has administered the exchange project. UM International Programs Associate Provost Mehrdad Kia said he is pleased with the ongoing collaboration.

The Teachers to Teachers Language, Technology, Math and Science Exchange is a

program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is administered by the American Councils for International Education, which identifies and rewards Russian educators with concentrated professional development, short-term internships and workshop design.

The program gives educators the opportunity to collaborate with U.S. counterparts to develop new teaching methods, create or expand materials and curricula and prepare professional development workshops for their colleagues.

For more information, call Brian Lofink of UM International Programs at 243-2299. Information about the exchange program also is online at <http://www.americancouncils.org>.

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